

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk, ss.

Supreme Judicial Court

In Re: Practice of Law by Attorneys Displaced by Hurricane Katrina

## ORDER

Given the extreme devastation caused to the states of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi by Hurricane Katrina, making it impossible to practice law in the areas affected by this storm, and after consultation with the Board of Bar Examiners, the Board of Bar Overseers and the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County, it is hereby ORDERED that the rules governing the practice of law in this Commonwealth be temporarily modified for attorneys displaced by Hurricane Katrina as set forth below.

Attorneys who have been admitted to practice in the highest courts of law in Alabama, Louisiana, or Mississippi, who are: (i) in good standing in all the jurisdictions to which they are admitted; (ii) persons of good character and fitness to practice law; and (iii) displaced from their home jurisdiction by Hurricane Katrina, are authorized to practice law in this Commonwealth provided that, except for transactions primarily involving the law of the jurisdictions where they are duly licensed, their practice of law in Massachusetts shall be under the supervision of a Massachusetts attorney who is in good standing. This temporary authorization will be valid until September 1, 2006, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

Attorneys who practice under this Order shall be subject to the Massachusetts Rules of Professional Conduct (S.J.C. Rule 3:07) and to the rules on bar discipline (S.J.C. Rule 4:01). Before commencing practice under this Order, an attorney shall file an affidavit with the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County attesting that the attorney: (i) is licensed to practice law in Alabama, Louisiana, or Mississippi; (ii) is in good standing in all the jurisdictions in which he or she is admitted; (iii) is a person of good character and fitness to practice law; and (iv) has been displaced from the practice of law by Hurricane Katrina. With the affidavit, the attorney shall file a certificate of

good standing from each of the jurisdictions in which the attorney is admitted, if available. If the certificate(s) of good standing is (are) not available when the affidavit is filed, such certificate(s) must be submitted within 30 days of filing the affidavit. Within five days of filing the affidavit, the attorney shall register with the Board of Bar Overseers. Unless the attorney's practice will be restricted to transactions primarily involving the law of the jurisdictions where he or she is duly licensed, within five days after commencing to practice law in Massachusetts under this Order, the attorney shall advise the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County in writing of the name and address of the supervising attorney.

This Order is effective immediately and shall terminate on September 1, 2006 unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

Entered: October 6, 2005

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| <u>MARGARET H. MARSHALL</u> | ) |          |
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| <u>JOHN M. GREANEY</u>      | ) |          |
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| <u>RODERICK L. IRELAND</u>  | ) |          |
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| <u>FRANCIS X. SPINA</u>     | ) |          |
|                             | ) | Justices |
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| <u>JUDITH A. COWIN</u>      | ) |          |
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| <u>MARTHA B. SOSMAN</u>     | ) |          |
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| <u>ROBERT J. CORDY</u>      | ) |          |